

From: **Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)**

To: R4NPDES.Kampachi

Date: 1/30/2020 12:06:18 PM

Subject: Keep factory fish farms out of the Gulf

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Dear EPA,

I am angered to hear that the EPA plans to approve a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System Permit for Velella Epsilon, a marine finfish aquaculture facility in the Gulf of Mexico. This is more environmental mayhem sanctioned by the Environmental Protection (I mean Pollution) Agency.

I strongly oppose this facility and marine finfish aquaculture everywhere. Please listen to science and the overwhelming public opposition and deny the NPDES permit.

These underwater feedlots are a disaster, or one waiting to happen, everywhere. From fish escaping and spreading disease to catastrophic spills to out-competing and weakening native fishes to attracting and harming predators, they cause irreparable ecological harm. They seriously impact the economy of wild-fishing communities that provide sustainable, high-quality products. Finally, industrial fish farms discharge a plethora of toxic substances into public waters, endangering the plants and animals of the marine ecosystem.

As you well know, approval of the draft NPDES would inevitably be the prelude to opening of more industrial-scale fish farms and destruction of Gulf Coast ecosystems and the economy of local communities that depend on the health of Gulf waters.

Your mandate is to protect the environment, not destroy it. Do the job your agency was created to do.

Thank you,

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